

Jesse Juen
U.S. Bureau of Land Management
New Mexico State Office
PO Box 27115
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502

August 5, 2014

Dear Mr. Juen,

My name is Molly Martinez. I am 72 years old and I am a Northern New Mexico native.

As a little girl I lived in Vallecitos southwest of Abiquiú on a small farm located on land deeded to us as part of the Spanish Land Grant. We were forced to abandon our home and move down to the village because the wells went dry because of drought.

Our families have lived in this area for hundreds of years. My father was Pedro Abeyta and my mother was Slnforosa Lopez, so our heritage is both Native American and Spanish. We raised sheep, cows and horses and grew vegetables. I learned from my grandparents and great grandparents how precious water is to survive on our land.

I am writing you to tell you I am deeply concerned about the leasing of BLM land to oil and gas companies. I have seen on the news the negative effect of fracking on land in New Mexico, Colorado, Texas, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, and New York.

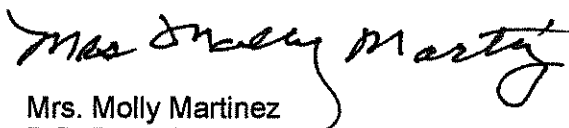
All of us in my community would be in danger of contamination of the water we use for drinking, bathing, laundry, and raising cattle and growing vegetables. This water flows down to Espanola, Albuquerque, El Paso and everywhere in-between. This is our water and as a native I can tell you droughts are common.

We were told by the Army Corp of Engineers that there are several faults under Abiquiu Lake. Many earthquakes have been caused in other states by fracking and a earthquake triggered by fracking could wipe out entire communities in The Rio Chama Valley and south of us.

I am writing to protest the leasing of parcels NM-2014-001, and NM-2014-004 through NM-2014-015 located in the Rio Chama Watershed and east of the Continental Divide for oil and gas development.

It is tough enough to live here. Please don't do anything that will make it harder for us to survive. Please protect the land for our children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, and all of those to follow in this very precious area. For many of us, this is all we have.

Thank you for your serious consideration of my request.



Mrs. Molly Martinez
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